

**AN ANALYSIS OF CONNOTATIVE MEANING IN  
PAMUNGKAS' SONG LYRICS**

**A Thesis  
Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for S1-  
Degree**

**By**

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## ABSTRACT

### AN ANALYSIS OF CONNOTATIVE MEANING IN PAMUNGKAS' SONG LYRICS

By:  
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Connotative meaning is a word that has sense of value. Generally connotative meaning can be found in literary work, one of them is song. Song have become ordinary thing to be heard at home or in public places. This research aims to find out : 1) what are the types of connotative meaning contained in the Pamungkas' Song lyrics? 2) what are the message delivered in the Pamungkas' song lyrics?.

This research was descriptive qualitative because the data were the lyrics of Pamungkas' song. There were some steps in collecting data such as browsed the song, watched and listened the song lyrics on youtube, and copy the song lyrics. In data analysis, this research used Miles and Huberman procedure, namely data reduction, data display and conclusion drawing/ verification. The researcher use validator to validity the data.

The result of this research were the researcher found that there are three types of connotative meaning based on J.N. Hook Theory namely positive, negative and neutral connotation in Pamungkas' song lyrics. There are fifteen data that contain connotative meaning including four positive connotations, eight neutral connotations and three negative connotations. Neutral connotation is most widely used in the lyrics of the song to replace the actual meaning to make it more interesting and easier to understand. From this analysis, the researcher found the message that the author wanted to convey. There are two songs that contain motivation about life and three other songs about love stories. Pamungkas used good words to describe the situation and feelings that are being experienced.

**Keywords :** *Semantics, Connotative Meaning, Song*

## DECLARATION

The writer is a student with the following identity:

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I hereby declared this is fully my work. I am very aware that I have cited several statements, references, and ideas from various sources and it is well recognized in this thesis.





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## MOTTO

يَرْفَعُ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا مِنْكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْعِلْمَ دَرَجَاتٍ ۚ وَاللَّهُ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ

خَيْرٌ ۝

“...Surely Allah will raise (degrees) those who believe among you and those who are given knowledge by several degrees. And Allah is All-Aware of what you do.”<sup>1</sup>  
(QS. Mujadalah : 11)



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<sup>1</sup> Al-qur'an Tajwid dan Terjemah. (Bandung : Sygma Examedia Arkanleema, 2010). Page 543

## DEDICATION

Praise and gratitude be to Allah the Almighty for His abundant blessing for me, and from my deep of heart and great of love i would like to dedicated this thesis to everyone who cares and loves me, this thesis is dedicated to:

1. Allah SWT who always loves and keeps me everywhere and everytime.
2. My beloved parents, Mr. Hamid Azhari and Mrs. Nurjanah who always love me and keep on praying for my life and succes. Thanks for all the motivation and support. May Allah always bless you with happiness and health.
3. My beloved brothers Gilang Dwi Syahputra and Gilar Surya Wibowo, thanks for love and support.
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## CURRICULUM VITAE

The researcher's name is Wahyu Pebriarti. She was born in Bandar Lampung on February 19<sup>th</sup> 1999. She is the first child of Mr. Hamid Azhari and Mrs. Nurjanah. She has two younger brothers, their name are Gilang Dwi Syahputra and Gilar Surya Wibowo.

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In the collage, she contributed actively in some students' organization to develop her protency and creativity. She was active in the organization at English Education Major that called ESA (English Students Assiciation) and she was also active in extra university organization of PMII (Pergerakan Mahasiswa Islam Indonesia). In 2020, she has implemented Praktik Pengalaman Lapangan (PPL) at SMKS Persada Bandar Lampung.



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*Bismillahirrahmanirrahim,*

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This thesis is written as one of requirements of S-1 degree the English Education Study Program of UIN Raden Intan Lampung. The researcher would like to thank to the following people for their ideas, time, guidance, support, encouragement, and assistance for this thesis accomplishment:

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Finally, the researcher was fully aware that there is still a lot of weakness in this thesis are always open-heartedly welcome and the writer hopes that this thesis will be useful for the readers.

Bandar Lampung, 22 Juli 2021  
The Researcher



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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Title Affirmation

In order to avoid misunderstanding in understanding and interpreting a thesis title, it is necessary to confirm the meaning of some words which are the title of this thesis. The title of the thesis is An Analysis Of Connotative Meaning In Pamungkas's Song Lyrics. The descriptions of the meanings of several terms contained in the title are as follows:

According to the Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI), the definition of analysis is the investigation of an event (essay, deed, etc.) to find out the real situation (causes, reasons, sit the case, etc.). Analysis is the elaboration of a subject on its various parts and the study of the parts themselves and the relationships between the sections to obtain a precise understanding of the overall meaning.<sup>1</sup>

Leech defines the connotative meaning as an expression of virtue that has more communicative value than the denotative meaning.<sup>2</sup> Yule argues that connotative meaning is special meaning that one individual might attach to words. For instance, some people may associate the expression “*low-calorie*”, when used to describe a product with “*healthy*”.<sup>3</sup>

Meaning is what the speaker's interpret or the speaker mean. Lyons stated that, ideas or concepts that are transferred from the speaker to the listener that embody a form of language or another are called meaning.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia (Balai Pustaka, 2009) P. 59

<sup>2</sup> Geoffrey Leech. *Semantic the study of meaning*. (New York: Penguin Book, 1981) P. 12

<sup>3</sup> Yule, George. *The Study of Language*: 4th Ed. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2010) P.113

<sup>4</sup> John Lyon. *Language and Linguistics*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995). P. 136

Rizky Rahmahadian Pamungkas or more often known with stage name Pamungkas is a singer, record produser and song writer from Indonesia. He was born in jakarta on April 14<sup>th</sup> 1993. Untill now he has four albums which has been released namely, Walk The Talk (2018), followed by sophomore album entitled Flying Solo (2019), and Solipsism (2020). And one album with new arrangement from song in the previous album, Solipsism 0.2 (2021).

Based on Oxford dictionary, song is a short poem or number of verses set to music.<sup>5</sup> According to Abrams, lyric is “any fairy short poem, consisting of the utterance by a single speaker who expresses a state of mind on a process of perception, thought and feeling”<sup>6</sup>

From these explanations it can be concluded that the title of the thesis about An Analysis of Connotative Meaning in Pamungkas's Song lyrics is to analyze or decipher the connotative meaning contained in Pamungkas's song lyrics.

## **B. Background of The Research**

Interacting is a necessity of every social human being, we use language to interacting. Language used to deliver messages, thoughts, concepts, ideas and feelings. The study of language is called linguistics. Lyons said that “Linguistics may be defined as the scientific study of language”.<sup>7</sup> In linguistics there are several branches of science which are can be learn such as, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, sociolinguistics, and pshycolinguistics.

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<sup>5</sup> Oxford dictionary. New York: Oxford University Press, 1974. P. 822

<sup>6</sup> M.H Abrams. *A Glossary of Literary Terms*. (Harcourt Brace College Publisher: Orlando, 2002) p.108

<sup>7</sup> John Lyon. *Language and Linguistics*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995).

In communicating, we usually use simple words that can be understood easily in expressing utterances. But, if we talk about literature work like poem, movie, drama, song and many more there are some sentences that have implicit meaning. To make communication run well, understanding between speaker and listener is indispensable, so there is no misunderstanding. In this case, study about meaning is necessary. In linguistics branch that learn about meaning one of them is semantics. Yule said "Semantics is the study of the meaning of words, phrases and sentences. In semantic analysis, there is always an attempt to focus on what the words conventionally mean, rather than on what an individual speaker might want then to mean on a particular occasion."<sup>8</sup>

There are some kinds of meaning in semantics, one of them are connotative and denotative meaning. Denotative meaning is the real meaning contained in the dictionary. Yule said that "Denotative or conceptual meaning covers basic, essential components of meaning which are conveyed by the literal use of a word".<sup>9</sup> Whereas connotative meaning is an implicit meaning and based on context. Yule also said that "different people might have different associations or connotations attached to a word like needle. They might associate it with "pain," or "illness," or "blood," or "drugs," or "thread," or "knitting," or "hard to find" (especially in a haystack), and these associations may differ from one person to the next. These types of associations are not treated as part of the word's conceptual meaning".<sup>10</sup>

Connotative meaning generally can be found in literary work, one of them is song. Nowadays, songs have become an ordinary thing to be heard both at home and in public places. A song is a collection of lyrics made from words that have a tone, song lyrics are usually made through inspiration or experience of

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<sup>8</sup> George Yule. *The Study of Language: an Introduction*. (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1985) p.112

<sup>9</sup> Ibid. P.113

<sup>10</sup> Ibid. P.113

someone whether sad or happy. In Oxford learners's Pocket Dictionary, "song is short piece of music with word that you sing".<sup>11</sup> According to Jamalus opines , music is a work art in the form of sound that reveal thought or feeling from author through the main elements of music.<sup>12</sup> To make a song sound beautiful, the author usually makes the song lyrics by using implicit and explicit meanings. Sometimes we as listeners have different views about the meaning conveyed by the author.

Based on explanation above, the reason why researcher choose connotative as an object research because there are still of listeners who have trouble interpret utterance from the speaker fits the context. Therefore the researcher want to research the connotative meaning which is contained in the song lyrics. The researcher choose song lyrics by "Pamungkas" for the research because in this era there are lots of teenager and adult who love Pamungkas's songs, this is evidenced from he often be a category in one of the leading music applications, one of the category is "The Most Listened Songs In Indonesia". The researcher choose one album of pamungkas, namely "Solipsism" because the researcher found lots of connotative meaning contained in his song lyrics, for example in his song entitled "Queen of the Heart" there is a lyrics "You're the **queen** of the heart", queen in dictionary means female ruler of an independent state that has a royal family (2) wife of a king<sup>13</sup> while in connotative meaning queen is his lover. Because of that reasons, the researcher interested researching connotative meaning in Pamungkas's song lyrics.

### C. Identification of The Problem

Based on the background of the problem, there are several problems as follows :

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<sup>11</sup> Oxford learners dictionary fourth edition. P. 423

<sup>12</sup> Jamalus opines jamalus. (1988). *Pengajaran Musik melalui Pengalaman* . Jakarta: Departemen Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan. P. 1

<sup>13</sup> Oxford dictionary page 360



1. Nowadays , there are so many people who love pamungkas' song and rarely people know the connotative meaning especially in the song, so it is difficult to catch the meaning that the writer or singer wants to convey.
2. There are many people who have complicated identifying the types of connotative meaning so it is hard to know what the message that the author want to convey.

#### **D. Limitation of The Problem**

In this research, the researcher focused to examine the types of connotative meaning (positive, negative and neutral) based on J.N. Hook theory contained in the Pamungkas's song lyrics in his album "Solipsism" entitled: "Queen of The Hearts", "Riding the Wave", "Live Forever", "Be Okay Again Today" and "I Don't Wanna Be Alone". And also after the researcher knowing the connotative meaning in the song lyrics, the researcher conclude the message contained based on the context.

#### **E. Formulation of The Problem**

1. What are the types of connotative meaning contained in the Pamungkas's song lyrics?
2. What are the message delivered in the Pamungkas's song lyrics?

#### **F. Objective of the research**

1. To identify connotative meaning are found in the Pamungkas's song lyrics.
2. To identify the message delivered in the Pamungkas's song lyrics.

## G. Use of The Research

This research expected can be used:

1. This research can give knowledge about semantics.
2. This research can give information to the readers about the types of connotative meaning in Pamungkas's song lyrics.
3. This research can be reference to the others resercher who want discuss related study.

## H. Relevance Studies

There have been many researchers who have researched about the connotative meaning that used in the song lyrics. The first study is by Armawansyah that entitled "*An Analysis of Connotative Meaning In Selected Maher Zain's Song Lyrics*". This research focuses on analyzing connotative meaning in Maher Zain's song lyrics and the research also find the message from Maher Zain in his song lyrics. He choose five song entitled : Forgive Me, Hold My Hand, Thank You Allah, Palestine Will Be Free and My Little Girl. The researcher use qualitative descriptive method to analyze the data. In the conclusion, he found six positive connotations, four neutral connotations, and four negative connotations. Positive connotation is most uses in these songs because he want to deliver the message to the listener in an encouraging way.<sup>14</sup>

The second study is by Rika Wahyuni that entitled "*An Analysis On Connotative Meaning Of Yusuf Islam's Songs*". This research focuses on connotative meaning, the researcher comparing denotative and connotative meaning of the data. The connotative meaning classified into three types namely positive, negative and neutral. The researcher use descriptive qualitative method. The researcher use song lyrics by Yusuf Islam in album "Footsteps in the light". Researcher choose five song in this

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<sup>14</sup> Armawansyah, *An Analysis Of Connotative Meaning In Selected Maher Zain's Songs Lyrics*, (Jakarta: UIN Syarif Hidayatullah, 2016).

album entitled : “The Wind”, “Seal of The Prophet”, “I Look, I See”, “Angel of War”, and “God is The Light”. In result show that there are thirty-six data which contain connotative meaning; nineteen data of positive, twelve data of negative, and five data of neutral.<sup>15</sup>

The third study is by Ita Purnamasari that entitled “*An Analysis Of Connotative Meaning On Justin Bieber’s Song Lyrics*”. In this research, the researcher focus on connotative meaning using Chaer’s theory and sense a values of American people using theory by Khols. The researcher choose justin bieber’s song lyrics as the data. The researcher use descriptive qualitative method to analyzing the data. The researcher analyzing data use Miles and Huberman’s theory. The result of the research of data contain connotative meaning are sixteen, six words include in equality/egalitarianism Americans values, four words include in material/acquisitiveness American values, one word include in time and its control American values, three words include in change American values and one word include in self-help concept American values.<sup>16</sup>

The fourth study is by Merry Lahama that entitled “*Connotative Meaning in Popular Song Lyrics by The Script Band (A Semantic Analysis)*”. This research aims to identify the connotative meaning in the song lyrics, this research use song lyrics by The Script Band as the data. This research uses descriptive qualitative method. The researcher focused on identifying connotative meaning and classify them into positive, negative and neutral based on J.N. Hook theory in collecting data. Then to analyze the connotative meaning in popular song lyrics by The Script band the researcher used Geoffrey Leech’s theory. In conclusion there are positive connotative and negative

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<sup>15</sup> Rika Wahyuni, “*An Analysis On Connotative Meaning Of Yusuf Islam’s Songs*” (Banda Aceh: UIN Ar-raniry, 2019)

<sup>16</sup> Ita Purnamasari, *An Analysis Of Connotative Meaning On Justin Bieber’s Song Lyrics*, Jurnal Pioner vol. 10 No. 2, 2018

connotative in the song lyrics and there are 25 words and 15 phrases containing the connotative meaning.<sup>17</sup>

The last study is by Nursinta Hartina that entitled "*Connotative and Denotative Meaning In Doang-Doang of Makassar*". This research focused on analyzing connotative and denotative and reason why users recited Doang-Doangan of Makasar. This research use Leech's theory to analyze denotative meaning and use Wardhaugh's theory to analyze connotative meaning. This research use descriptive qualitative method. In conclusion there are 24 word of connotative meaning and 25 word of denotative meaning. Based on interview sheet, language preservation was the most dominant reason why users recited Doang-Doangan of Makasar.<sup>18</sup>

From several previous studies that have been read by researchers, there are some similarities and differences between the research that has been done and the research that is being carried out. This study uses the theory of J.N. Hook and Leech like most of the research that has been done. Meanwhile, the researcher chose to analyze the connotative meaning of the song lyrics from Pamungkas because this song had never been researched before. So the title of this research is "Analysis of Conotative Meanings in Pamungkas Song Lyrics".

## I. Research Methodology

### 1. Research Design

Research design is a research plan and procedure that includes an assessment of opinions for data collection and analysis methods.<sup>19</sup> There are some kinds of research design such as quantitative and qualitative. In this research, the

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<sup>17</sup> Merry Lahama, Makna Konotatif Dalam Lirik-Lirik Lagu Populer Karya Band *The Script*, (Manado: Universitas Sam Ratulangi, 2017).

<sup>18</sup> Nursinta Hartina, *Connotative And Denotative Meaning In Doang-Doang Of*

*Makassar* (Makasar: UIN Alauddin Makasar, 2017).

<sup>19</sup> John W. Cresswell. *Research Design*. (Los Angeles: SAGE, 2009) P. 3

researcher used descriptive qualitative method to analyze connotative meaning in Pamungkas's song lyrics.

According to Lewis & Ritchie, qualitative methods are used to answer research questions that require an explanation or understanding of social phenomena and their context.<sup>20</sup> Sugiyono said that qualitative research method is a research method that used to examines the condition of a natural object (as a rule it is an experiment) where the researcher is the key instrument, the data collection technique is done by triangulation (combined), the data analysis is inductive and the results of qualitative research emphasize the meaning more than generalization.<sup>21</sup>

It means basically qualitative research is descriptive, descriptive explanations can be used to provide clear information. Based on the theory explanation above, the researcher use descriptive qualitative to analyze and describe connotative meaning in Pamungkas's song lyrics.

## **2. Research Subject**

Research subject according to Spradley is a source of information.<sup>22</sup> In this study, the researcher chose Pamungkas' song lyrics as a subject research. Researchers focused on analyzing the connotative meaning contained in Pamungkas's song lyrics.

## **3. Instrument**

Instrument is very important in the research. The researcher is a key-data collection instrument in qualitative reaserch. The researcher used internet to get the song lyrics as the data and also the researcher used Oxford Dictionary to look for real meaning to compare with the connotative.

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<sup>20</sup> Jane Lewis & Jane Ritchie. *Qualitative Research Practice*. (London: SAGE) P.3

<sup>21</sup> Sugiyono. "Metode Penelitian Kualitatif" (Bandung: Alfabeta, 2018) P. 9

<sup>22</sup> Basrowi & Suwandi, "Memahami Penelitian Kualitatif", Jakarta: Rineka Cipta, 2008, p. 188.



### 1. Data Display

In qualitative research, the data can be seen in the form of graphs, pie charts, tables and etc.<sup>23</sup> Data display used to easy understanding of the data obtained. In this research, the researcher choose to used table as the data display.

Table 1  
Data display

NO.	Song Title	Data	Analysis	Kinds of Conotative Meaning		
				Positive	Neutral	Negative
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						

### 4. Data Collecting Technique

Collecting data is the main activity in every research. According to Miles and Hubberman, in qualitative research data collection is done by observation, in-depth interviews, and documentation or a combination of the three

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<sup>23</sup> Sugiyono. op.cit. P. 137

(triangulation). In order to collect a lot of data, data collection is carried out for days or even months.<sup>24</sup>

In this research, the researcher choose to collect data by means of documentation because the research subjects of this study were song lyrics.

There are several ways that used by the researcher to collect data :

1. The researcher browsed the Pamungkas's song that will be annalyzed
2. The researcher watched and listened the Pamungkas's song lyrics on Youtube
3. The researcher copy the lyrics from the internet.

## **5. Data Analysis**

Miles and Huberman said that when collecting data, qualitative data analysis done simultaneously.<sup>25</sup> When collecting data on the internet, the researcher has analyzed the Pamungkas's song lyrics whether there is desired data, if there is no data that the researcher wants, the researcher searched again until the data obtained is credible. Miles and Huberman stated that activities in qualitative data are data condensation, data display and conclusion drawing / verification.<sup>26</sup>

### **1. Data Condensation**

In data condensation, this is the process of focusing, selecting and simplifying abstract things contained in the document or body of written and other things. In this case, data condensation is the first step to analyze data by focusing on data to facilitate researchers in conducting research. In this research the researcher chose the data from five Pamungkas' song and focused on the types of

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<sup>24</sup> Sugiyono. op.cit. P. 134

<sup>25</sup> Ibid. P. 132

<sup>26</sup> Miles, Hubberman, and Saldana, *Qualitative Data Analysis A Methods Sourcebook Third Edition* (Los Angels: SAGE Publication, 2014) p.16

connotative meaning and the message that was conveyed by the author.

## **2. Data Display**

This stage is the process of organizing information, and drawing conclusions so that they are easy to understand. Researchers organize words, phrases and sentences in the form of tables. This makes it easier for researchers to classify the types of connotative meaning in Pamungkas' song.

## **3. Drawing and Verifying Conclusions**

Conclusion and data verification is the final stage in analyzing the data. This analysis ends with the conclusion of the type of connotative meaning and the message conveyed by the author.

There are several ways that needed in data analysis activity :

1. The researcher identified words that contained connotative meaning in the Pamungkas's song lyrics.
2. The researcher classified data that contained connotative meaning based on J.N Hook theory.
3. The researcher identified denotative meaning that contained in the song lyrics used Oxford Dictionary.
4. The researcher concluded message contained in the song lyrics based on context after knowing the connotative meaning of the song lyrics.
5. After analyze the data, researcher display the result in descriptive form based on each category.
6. The researcher drawn conclusion from the analysis which aim to clarify the research.

## **6. Trustworthiness of Data**

Standards are needed to see degree of truth of the research results. This standard is often referred to trustworthiness in qualitative research. Creswell & Miller

said, “Validity is one of the strengths of qualitative research and is based on determining whether the findings are accurate from the standpoint of the researcher, the participant, or the readers of an account. Terms abound in the qualitative literature that address validity, such as trustworthiness, authenticity, and credibility.”<sup>27</sup> Trustworthiness aim to account for the research results. According to Cresswell, there is a way to intensify data credibility that is use triangulation methods. This method used to check the data with sundry ways and sources.<sup>28</sup>

Miles and Huberman said that, to do data triangulation there are several methods :

### **1. Triangulation Data Source**

This method is a method that used by the researcher to verify data validity in places, situations and particular condition in different people. For example like interview, observation and documentation.

### **2. Methodological Triangulation**

This is a method that use findings from other researchers which use other different methods.

### **3. Investigator tringulation**

This is a method that use one or more expert which study and analyze the findings of the researchers.

### **4. Theoretical Triangulation**

This is a method that use some theory that related with the data analysis research. The reseracher use journal, book, article and etc.<sup>29</sup>

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<sup>27</sup> Cresswell. Op.cit. P. 328

<sup>28</sup> Ibid. P. 191

<sup>29</sup> Matthew B. Miles and A. Michael Huberman. “*qualitative data analysis*” (united states : SAGE Publications, 1994), 267

From the that explanation, the reseracher choose to used investigator triangulation as a data validity in this research.

## **J. Systematic Discussion**

To make it easy to understand, this study uses a systematic discussion as follows:

Chapter I : This section is an introduction which contains:

- a. Title Affirmation
- b. Background of the Problem
- c. Identification of the Problem
- d. Limitation of the Problem
- e. Formulation of the Problem
- f. Objective of the Research
- g. Use of the Research
- h. Relevance Studies
- i. Research Methodology
- j. Systematic Discussion

Cahpter II : This section is a theoretical framework that contains:

- a. Semantics
- b. Meaning
- c. Terms of Meaning
- d. Kinds of Meaning
- e. Connotative Meaning
- f. Song
- g. Song by Pamunngkas



- h. The Relevant of Research to  
ELT

Chapter III : This section is a description of the  
object research that contains:

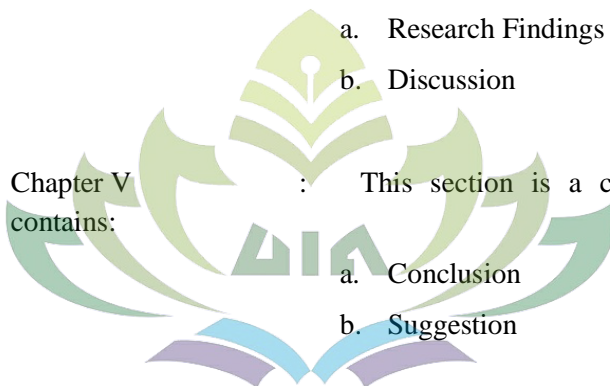
- a. General Description of the  
Object
- b. Facts and Data Display

Chapter IV : This section is a research analysis  
that contains:

- a. Research Findings
- b. Discussion

Chapter V : This section is a closing that  
contains:

- a. Conclusion
- b. Suggestion



## CHAPTER II

### THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

#### A. Semantics

Semantic is one part of linguistics. Many linguist have argued about the meaning of semantics. According to Lyons, generally semantics is a study about meaning.<sup>30</sup> Katz said that, “semantics is the study of linguistic meaning. It is concerned with what sentence and other linguistics object express, not with the arrangement with their syntactic parts or their pronunciation”.<sup>31</sup> While Yule said that, semantics is a study of linguistics branch which related with the meaning of word, phrase, and sentence.<sup>32</sup> According to Kreidler, Semantics is the systematic study of meaning, and Linguistic Semantic is the study of how language organizes and expresses meaning.<sup>33</sup>

The lexical semantic is a subfield of semantics related to the meaning of words and the meaning of the relationship between words and phrases that are related to the syntactic unit that is larger than the word. In other words, based on some of these expert opinions, it can be concluded that semantics is a science from the branch of linguistics that discusses the meaning of words and phrases in the sentences.

#### B. Meaning

##### 1. Terms of Meaning

Meaning is a systematic meaning which related with the intent of the speaker wants to convey by speaker to the

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<sup>30</sup> John Lyons. *Semantics*. Vol 1 (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1979) p.1.

<sup>31</sup> Katz 1971 p.1

<sup>32</sup> George Yule, *The Study of Language*: 4th Ed (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2010), p.127.

<sup>33</sup> Charles W. Kreidler. *Introducing English Semantics*. (New York: Taylor & Francis, 2002) P.3

listener. Meaning used to deliver information which can understood together. Every country have different language so, the meaning related with the language that has been mutually agreed as the meaning of the language. According to Alston, in a referential approach, meaning is defined as a label in human consciousness to designate the outside world. As a label, that meaning is present because of the awareness of observing the facts and drawing conclusions which are all subject to subjective action.<sup>34</sup> Lyons stated that, ideas or concepts that are transferred from the speaker to the listener that embody a form of language or another are called meaning.<sup>35</sup>

According to Trask, meaning is a characteristic of a linguistic form which allows it to be used to select some aspects of the non-linguistic world.<sup>36</sup> According to Lyons, studying the meaning of a word or giving the meaning of a word is understanding the word study which is related to the meaning relationship that distinguishes it from other words.<sup>37</sup> Lyon asserts that, The meaning in semantic theory can be explained from the speaker's mind to the listener's mind by being aware of it, as in the form of one language or another.<sup>38</sup>

So, based the explanations of several experts, it can be concluded that meaning is information conveyed by the speaker and can be understood by the listener.

## 2. Kinds of Meaning

Meaning is a important part in semantics. To understand the language, semantics has important role. Meaning in semantics can be devided into several types. Each expert has their own opinion regarding the division of types

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<sup>34</sup> Aminudin. 2008. *Semantik, Pengantar Studi Semantik tentang makna*. Sinar Baru Aglensindo Bandung. Page 55

<sup>35</sup> John Lyon. 1995, op.cit P. 136

<sup>36</sup> Trask, p.120

<sup>37</sup> John Lyons, *Linguistic Semantics an Introduction* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1977), p.2

<sup>38</sup> Lyon, J. (1995), op.cit P. 138

of meanings. Bell divide meaning into two types namely, denotative and connotative meaning.<sup>39</sup> Beard clasify meaning into two, namely connotative and denotative. Conceptual meaning or denotative meanng refer to the real meaning in the dictionary, while connotative meaning is a meaning that contain emotional explanation that maybe exist in the word.<sup>40</sup> While, Leech divide meaning into seven types namely conceptul meaning or commonly called denotative meaning, associative meaning included connottaive meaning, social meaning, affective meaning, reflected meaning, and collocative meaning, the last is thematic meaning.<sup>41</sup>

For more detail explanation, each meaning according to Leech will explained as follows; The first is conceptual meaning, this meaning is often referred to as denotative or cognitive meaning. This meaning emphasizes more on logical meaning. Conceptual meaning is the actual meaning contained in the dictionary. For example **Boy = + human + male-adult**. The second is connotative meaning, connotative meaning has more communicative value than denotative meaning. The connotative meaning is not the real meaning. The third is social meaning, this meaning shows the social condition of the use of that meaning. For example **mother (formal), mom (colloquial), mama (child's language)**. The fourth is affective meaning, this meaning is a reflection of the personal feelings of the speaker or writer. The fifth is reflected meaning, This meaning is a conceptual meaning which has a double meaning where one word can generate responses to other meanings. the sixth is collocative meaning, this meaning is a collection of words that occur in the environment of other words. For example **heavy smoker (a person who smokes a lot)**. The last is thematic meaning, this

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<sup>39</sup> Bell, R. T. *Translation and translating: theory and practice*. (New York: Longman, 1993) P. 98

<sup>40</sup> Rababah, A. G. Corpus linguistic analysis of the connotative meaning of some terms used in the context of 'The War on Terror'. *International Journal of English Linguistics*. 5(1), 2015. P. 114

<sup>41</sup> Leech. *Semantic the study of meaning*. 1981 page 9-19

meaning is the meaning communicated by the way a speaker arranges the message sequence, focus and emphasis.

From that explanation, there are several expert that divided meaning into two types namely denotative and connotative meaning. While, more detail Leech divided meaning into seven types namely denotative meaning, associative meaning included connottaive meaning, social meaning, affective meaning, reflected meaning, and collocative meaning, the last is thematic meaning. In this study, researchers focused on the analysis of connotative meaning.

### C. Connotative Meaning

Connotative meaning is a meaning that does not lead to an intent. Connotative meaning is not the actual meaning, beyond the original meaning or conceptual meaning. Leech said that, "connotative meaning is the communicate value and expression has a virtue of what it refers to, over and purely conceptual content".<sup>42</sup> According to Chaer, A word is said to have a connotative meaning if it has a "sense of values", both positive and negative. The meaning can also be called no connotation or neutral connotation if it does not have a sense of value.<sup>43</sup>

Connotative meaning is different from other meanings, connotative meaning arises from a combination of feelings and the language of the word itself. Yule said that, connotative meaning is a special meaning that one person may attach words. For example some people use the phrase "low-calorie" to describe "healthy" food.<sup>44</sup> The connotative meaning is the meaning that adds some basic values that are usually used. To understand a word we must know the difference between denotative and connotative meaning. When we find a meaning in

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<sup>42</sup> Ibid. P. 12

<sup>43</sup> Abdul Chaer. *Pengantar Semantik Bahasa Indonesia*. (Jakarta: Rieneka Cipta, 2013) page 65

<sup>44</sup> Yule 2010, op.cit. P. 113

the dictionary, we will find the real meaning of the word itself, this is usually called denotative meaning or can be called cognitive or literal meaning. On the other hand, connotative meaning is the meaning associated with denotative meaning. Connotative meaning is additional to the denotative meaning in an indirect way.

According to Barthes in Sobur, connotative has a wide range of possible interpretation. Generally, connotative has relationship with personal experience or circumstances of a group which gives connotative meaning.<sup>45</sup> Connotative meaning is subjective, it depends of experience or certain culture, therefore connotative meaning not always same. Connotative meaning is a shift in meaning from the real meaning or dennotative meaning, therefore the connotative meaning becomes the hidden or implied meaning in a phrase or sentence.

Connotation is more complex than denotation. J. N. Hook said that, a word sometimes has an emotional meaning or what we usually call a connotative meaning other than the dennotative meaning. The involvement of affection and emotions in the mind is very important when we are talking about connotative.<sup>46</sup> In addition, J. N. Hook states that connotative meaning can be divided into two kinds, namely positive connotative (purr word) and negative connotative (snarl word). Besides the positive and negative connotative meaning, there is neutral that is most of them is jargon language.<sup>47</sup>

Here are the examples of positive and negative connotative meaning :

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<sup>45</sup> Alex Sobur. *Semiotika Komunikasi*. (Bandung : PT. Remaja Rosdakarya, 2006) page 8

<sup>46</sup> Widarso Wishnubroto. *Bahasa Inggris; Dialek, Ragam, Jargon, Slang, Blends Clipped Words*. (Yogyakarta: Kanisius, 1989) P. 69

<sup>47</sup> Ibid. P. 71

Table 2  
Example of positive, negative and neutral connotation

<b>Positive Connotaion</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Negative Connotation</b>
Cottage		Shanty/Shack
Pass Away	Die	Kick the Bucket
Vintage		Old-Fashion

From this explanation, it can be concluded that the connotative meaning refers to all types of events caused by words such as situational, emotional, and so on in certain contexts. Meanwhile, denotation is the meaning of the word itself which can be found in the dictionary.

We can conclude from several explanation of the expert, the steps how to analyze connotative meaning are :

1. Identify the words that have sense of value
2. We must know the differences between connotative and denotative or normal use of language
3. Because connotative meaning is subjective, look at the context to make it easier to know the real meaning of the sentences.
4. After that we can classify the words into positive or negative connotation based on the context.and based on the common thing usually used to describe something in the words.

#### **D. Song**

The song is a combination of music and lyrics. Based on Oxford dictionary, song is a short poem or number of verses set



to music.<sup>48</sup> Ratnasari said that, “song is a kind of poet sung with music accompaniment.”<sup>49</sup> According to Dallin, “Lyrics are written as a form of interaction between the writer and the listeners. Most of the times, they carry a message (whatever that might be) with the purpose of motivating the listeners, at least, to think about it. Such a purpose and form of interaction are embedded in the cultural context of these people, according to their musical preferences, time, etc.”<sup>50</sup> While, according to Jamalus Opines, music is a work art in the form of sound music.<sup>51</sup> Song lyrics used by the author to conveyed message for the listeners, usually song lyrics written based on personal experience or imagination from the from the author.

There are several genres of music, namely pop, jazz, dangdut, rock, blues, classics, etc. For the clear explanation will expalain bellow :

### 1. Classic

Classical musik is a music which has been around for a long time, classical music began to appear in the 1700s. This music has a high artistic value, so still many people which love to listen that music untill now. The example for classical music can be found from great works such as Mozart namely Symphony No.40, Piano Sonata No.16 in C Major, Piano Concerto No.21 and many more.

### 2. Jazz

Jazz music is music art from consolidation from blues, ragtime and european band musics. Usually this kind of music known has a light tone and able to provide relax sensation for all the listeners. Example for jazz music can

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<sup>48</sup> Oxford dictionary (1974, p. 822)

<sup>49</sup> Ratnasari, H. *Songs to improve the students' achievement in pronouncing English words.*(Unpublished undergraduate thesis). Jawa Tengah: Semarang State University, 2007. P. 4

<sup>50</sup> Dallin. *Listeners Guide to Musical Understanding.* (Surakarta: Dubuque WBC Brown & Benchmark, 1994)

<sup>51</sup> Jamalus Opines. *Pengajaran Musik melalui Pengalaman .* (Jakarta: Departemen Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan, 1988) P. 1

seen in the works from *La Vie En Rose* from Louis Armstrong, and from Indonesia we have *Sedari Dulu* from Tompi.

### **3. Country Music**

This type of music is usually thick with a light, cheerful, and relaxed tone. Country music from American musicians can be found from works by Little Big Town, Luke Bryan, Roller Coaster, Shania Twain, and many more. Meanwhile in Indonesia, country music can be enjoyed from the song *Bengawan Solo* by Tantowi Yahya, and *Bento* by Iwan Fals.

### **4. Rock**

Rock music is usually distinctive with the sound of an electric guitar being the main instrument in every work of this musical genre. This rock music is widely featured in the works of Guns N Roses, Queen, Nirvana, Meat Loaf and many more.

### **5. Pop**

One type of music that is popular with the public is pop music. This type of music has a simple tone and lyrics. In addition, this type of popular music is also easier to understand and suitable for singing or humming. Pop music can cover all fields, be it love, humanity, social and so on. This is what makes pop music as universal music.

### **6. Ballad**

Ballad music usually contains love, the strains of ballad music are interpreted as slow music. Ballad music song lyrics are usually written in poetic words that touch the heart so that they match the slow music.

### **7. Blues**

Blues music is music that was brought by African people who settled in America, blues music has a sad impression because, initially this music was a music of praise for African slaves in America. Now this music is popularized by world musicians to protest human rights.

## 8. Reggae

Reggae music originally came from Jamaica. The strains of this music have characteristics such as a relaxed beat. Usually this type of music contains or conveys a message of peace, equality and balance of nature. Famous reggae singers are Bob Marley, Toots Hibbert and Jimmy Cliff.

## 9. Hip Hop

This type of music is usually synonymous with rap lyrics, or long lyrics that are pronounced quickly following the beat of the hip hop music itself.

## 10. Dangdut

Dangdut music is growing rapidly in Indonesia. The distinctive feature of this music is that it is accompanied by the strains of the drums. Dangdut music has had a lot of influence from India and Malay. Now many dangdut music combines traditional and modern elements.

So according to the explanations from several experts, it can be concluded that the lyrics are part of the song that contains words and sentences, while the song is part of the music. Song lyrics can express someone's feelings and song lyrics will sound beautiful when music is added to it so that it produces a beautiful song. Songs are not only for entertainment, they can also relate to a person's life and feelings. Types of music are very diverse, we can choose the type of music according to what we like.

## E. Songs by Pamungkas

Rizky Rahmahadian Pamungkas or more often known with stage name Pamungkas is a singer, record produser and song writer from Indonesia. He was born in jakarta on April 14<sup>th</sup> 1993. Untill now he has four albums which has been released namely, Walk The Talk (2018), followed by sophomore album entitled Flying Solo (2019), and Solipsism (2020). And one album with

new arrangement from song in the previous album, Solipsism 0.2 (2021).

The songs that analyzed by the researcher are the songs in the Solipsism album. From that album, the researcher choose five songs entitled; Queen of The Heart, Riding the Wave, Live Forever, Be Okay Again Today and I Don't Wanna Be Alone. Solipsism album is an album that expresses the identity of Pamungkas. Solipsism itself means the view or theory that self-thought is everything. The songs in this album are written based on personal experience, he wants to tell his experiences through songs.

The researcher choose these five songs in this Solipsism album because the songs is very impressive and the song lyrics are related with social society and also the songs is about motivation or self improvement and about love songs that relate with the social life. The songs contained in this solipsism album are very good and related with other people feeling. So that many people, especially teenagers, like the songs from Pamungkas.

#### **F. The Relevance of Research to English Language Teaching (ELT)**

The relevance of Research to ELT is the connotative meaning of Pamungkas's song lyrics can be used by English subject teachers as learning material about social functions and linguistic elements of song lyrics related to teenager life. It is in appropriate with the 2013 curriculum syllabus of English subjects for example syllabus class XI in Basic Competence (KD) 3.9 namely Interpreting social functions and linguistic elements of song lyrics related to the lives of high school / MA / SMK / MAK adolescents and on Basic Competence (KD) 4.9 namely Capturing meaning contextually related social functions and linguistic elements of song lyrics related to the lives of SMA / MA / SMK / MAK teenagers.

Semantic as part of English is generally studied by English major students. In Indonesia, high school students also learn about kinds of meaning like connotative meaning in Indonesian subject. Of course the students are familiar with connotative meaning, with this research the students can know the differences of connotative and denotative meaning that learn in English and Indonesian Language.

We can learn English everywhere, for example from book, movie, music and etc. An analysis of connotative meaning can be a fun way to learn English because we don't just learn about theoretical but also we can enjoy the media. The researcher used music for this research, because music is one of the literary work that have many audience.



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